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Colorado Man Convicted of Driving Car Into Venice Beach Crowd, Killing Honeymooner

A jury today found a 39-year-old Colorado man guilty of second-degree murder when he drove his car onto the Venice boardwalk in 2013, killing an Italian bride on her honeymoon, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Deputy District Attorney Victor Avila with the Major Crimes Division said the jury also found Nathan Louis Campbell guilty of 17 counts of assault with a deadly weapon and 10 counts of leaving the scene of an accident.

Campbell faces up to life in state prison when he returns to court for sentencing on Aug. 5 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Airport Branch in case SA084351.

The jury found Campbell intentionally drove his 2008 Dodge Avenger onto the popular Venice boardwalk shortly before 6 p.m. on Aug. 3, 2013. Campbell drove on Dudley Avenue and sped south towards Sunset Avenue, killing Alice Gruppioni, 32, of Italy. As he continued driving, he hit and injured 17 other victims.

After abandoning his vehicle at Ocean Park Boulevard and Beverly Avenue, he turned himself in at the Santa Monica Police Department station about two hours later that same day.

The defendant claimed he thought he had placed the car in reverse when it accidently slipped into drive. Evidence at trial showed otherwise.

The Los Angeles Police Department's Robbery-Homicide Division investigated the case.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.